

Application No. 09/919,574
Docket No. 0331-019

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application; of these, claims 1, 13, 15 are 26 independent. Claims 1, 6 and 19 have been amended by the foregoing amendment.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration, and making a record, of documents submitted in an Information Disclosure statement.

Claims 6 and 19 were objected to based on misspelling of the word "ration" - it is believed that this objection is overcome by the foregoing amendment.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,330,462 ("Chen"). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,265,151 ("Goldstein"). Claims 5 and 15-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,356 ("Brown"). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections in view of the following remarks.

Applicants' invention is directed to methods and apparatus for reducing power used for transmission of data. As recited in amended claim 1, for example, a method of reducing power required for transmitting a signal from a first transceiver to a second transceiver comprises estimating, at the first transceiver, an excess amount of power used by the first transceiver for transmitting the signal. The method also comprises reducing a power use of the first transceiver by the excess amount of power to a reduced power level and transmitting the signal from the first transceiver using the reduced power level wherein the reduced power level achieves a transmission rate of the signal within a predefined tolerance of a target rate thereof.

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Chen discloses a system in which a first communication device (transmission system) 2 receives explicit power control signals from a second communication device (receiving system) 4 for determining adjustment to transmission power (Fig. 3). The power is controlled at the transmission system in accordance with received power at the receiving system (col. 5, lines 63 to 67). Control processor 38 of Chen (at the receiving system 4) determines whether power should be increased or decreased and this determination is communicated to the transmission system 2 (col. 8, lines 54 to 65).

Adjustments to transmission power are made based on information received from the receiving system and not estimated by the transmission system as described and recited in claim 1 of Applicants' invention.

At least for these reasons, it is believed that claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Chen.

In claim 13, the method of reducing power required for transmitting a signal from a first transceiver to a second transceiver comprises determining at the second transceiver an amount of excess power in the signal transmitted from the first transceiver, calculating at the second transceiver an attainable reduced power level for the transmitted signal and communicating the reduced power level between the second and first transceivers wherein the first transceiver adjusts its power level prior to a time period that would require a second initialization.

Control processor 38 of Chen (at the receiving system 4) determines whether power should be increased or decreased. A signal indicating this determination is provided to a power control message generator 41 (at the receiving system 4). A power control message is generated

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and punctured via a transmission subsystem 42 (at the receiving system 4) into an outgoing stream. The message is received by a receiving subsystem 46 (of transmission system 2) and a demultiplexer separates the power control message from data. The power control message is provided to a power control processor 48 (of transmission system 2) which determines any necessary power adjustment (col. 8, lines 54 to 65).

Chen determines whether to adjust power at the receiving system 4 but the level of adjustment is determined and made by power control processor 48 of receiving subsystem 46 in the transmission system 2. In Applicants' invention, on the other hand, the amount of excess power is determined at the second transceiver (receiving transceiver) and an attainable reduced power level for transmitted signal is also calculated at the second transceiver. That is, the level of adjustment is determined at the second transceiver (receiving transceiver) and not at the transmission system as in the system of Chen.

At least for these reasons, it is believed that claim 13 is allowable over the teachings of Chen.

As for claims 15 and 26, the deficiencies of Chen as described above are not overcome by the teachings of Brown. Therefore, claims 15 and 26 are allowable over the Chen/Brown combination. Goldstein also fails to overcome the deficiencies of Chen.

The remaining claims (i.e. 2-12, 14, 16-25 and 27) all depend on one of independent and allowable claims 1, 13, 15 and 26. Accordingly, these claims are allowable.

All of the rejections having been overcome, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should

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the Examiner have any questions with respect to expediting the prosecution of this application,
he is urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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